

to rest upon, so that she might make the trip up the steep river hill in greater comfort.

Henry S. Porch, a son of Ezekial and Mary Porch, was a soldier of the Mexican War. He enlisted in Company H, Fourth Regiment, Kentucky, October 3, 1847, and was mustered out July 28, 1848, at Somerset. This company was organized by Captain John G. Lair at Somerset, September, 1847, and marched from Somerset to Louisville, arriving October 3, 1847.

A second son, Edwin D. Porch, was elected county court clerk, August, 1862, and he served in that capacity until his death March 15, 1874. He was succeeded by his son, Charles B. Porch, who filled out his father's unexpired term and was elected to a second term in 1880.<sup>13</sup>

### JESSE RICHARDSON

Jesse Richardson (Richeson) was the son of Jonathan and Ann Richardson, born about 1760 though the exact date is not known. Of his several brothers and sisters, the following names are on record: Amos, Joseph, Mary, Nancy, Aimy, and Thomas. He was a native of Loudoun County, Virginia, but was living in Botetourt County, when he volunteered in 1778 for service in the Revolutionary War.

Jesse Richardson came to Kentucky about 1779; he served under Colonel Preston in the company of Captain James Newell. In 1780 he served in Colonel Benjamin Logan's regiment under Captain George Adams and Lieutenants William Moore and Joseph Kennedy. In 1782, he served under General George Rogers Clark in the Northwest Territory.

After the war he settled in Blazed Valley, where he and his numerous descendants lived through several generations. In fact, more than half that land is still owned by direct descendants. Having received several hundred acres by military grant and having acquired much more, he became one of the largest landowners in this section of the state. He owned practically all the land from what is now the Pump House to the post office of Ruth, or most of the territory bordering Pitman Creek, beginning at the old Kendrick farm, following the old

<sup>13</sup>Information by Lina Porch.

road to the crossing at Ruth. Each child was deeded several hundred acres. Rock Lick Church and burying grounds were a part of the old grant and were given to his daughter Lucy, who married Benjamin Thurman. This tract of land was in the Thurman family until sold by J. H. Thurman, the father of Mrs. V. D. Roberts.<sup>14</sup>

Doubtless the heart of this old pioneer would have quickened if he could have seen into the future; for today many worthy descendants are living in Somerset and Pulaski County. A tabulated record, which lack of space prohibits including, is kept by a descendant, Mrs. Mae Thurman Roberts.

### SHEPPERD

The Shepperd family were among the early settlers of Pulaski County. They came from Wayne County in the early 1800's. Fount Shepperd, born in 1823, married Elizabeth Withers. For a time they lived on Fishing Creek in Pulaski County and later moved to Somerset, where they operated a hotel.

They had four sons and five daughters. One of their daughters, Margaret (who married Dill Moss), spent most of her life in Somerset and passed away March 7, 1945, at the age of ninety-three.

Will Shepperd, brother of Fount, was jailer in Somerset for twenty years. Thomas Hansford Shepperd, another brother who was born in 1840, married Elizabeth Porch of Somerset. He served with the Army of the Confederacy as a member of Company H, Sixth Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry under the famous General John Hunt Morgan. He was captured with several others by Union forces and spent two years as a war prisoner at Camp Douglas, Illinois.

### STONER

Michael Stoner, intrepid hunter, prospector and Kentucky pioneer, was born George Michael Holstiener in 1748, near the present city of Philadelphia. His parents were John Leonhardt and Barbara Graff Holstiener, who were born in Rheinisch Bavaria, Germany, and immigrated to America, via Eng-

<sup>14</sup>Information from Mrs. Mae Thurman Roberts.